

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of the Lafayette Parish Bayou Vermilion District
Held at Vermilionville, 300 Fisher Road Lafayette Louisiana
4:30 pm, June 24, 2015

Call to Order was given by President Richard at 4:30. **Roll Call:** Given by Secretary Commissioners Rodney Richard, David Barry, Steve Gremillion, Derek Landry, Don McConnell were present. Commissioner Kristie Cornell was absent. There was a quorum.

Approval of Minutes: **MOTION:** (D. Barry/D. McConnell) to approve the minutes as submitted for May 27, 2015 meeting. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Introduction of Guest(s): Christie Dunn, CPA with Wright, Moore, DeHart, Dupuis and Hutchinson, LLC and Bruce Conque. Staff: CEO Cheramie, Anne Mahoney, Jolie Johnson, Millicent Norbert, Charissa Helluin, Curtis Willingham and Kim Fournet.

Public Comment(s): There were no public comments.

Commissioner J. Troutman joined the meeting at 4:33.

Presentation of December 31, 2014 Audit Report: Ms. Dunn distributed a copy of the December 31, 2014, audit report and a required letter addressed to the Board. She reported that there were no errors found in the accounting records. There were no disagreements with management and no audit findings. About the audit report: the firm had an unmodified opinion, (previous years it was termed unqualified opinion) which means that everything is in order. Ms. Dunn presented several statements concerning the operations of the Bayou Vermilion District that ensure it is in compliance. General Fund revenues are mostly ad valorem driven. In regards to the Vermilionville revenues, BVD is working very hard to keep the revenues as high as possible and being proactive on making necessary changes to help with revenues and expenditures. Wright, Moore, DeHart, Dupuis and Hutchinson, LLC will submit the audit report to the Legislative Auditor.

Commissioner J. Broussard joined the meeting at 4:36

President's Report: Nothing to report at the moment.

Commissioner T. Michot joined the meeting at 4:40.

CEO's Report: A copy of CEO Cheramie's report and coordinators reports (on file) were e-mailed and are in each Commissioner's binder. CEO reported he has been communicating with the bond attorney, Jerry Osbourne, to determine the best date for BVD's bond renewal vote. The price for an election is close to \$50,000, this cost is divided between the entities on the ballot. This is a renewal bond which expires at the end of 2016 and Bruce Conque suggested the April election would be the better date. In the unlikely event that the bond renewal fails, it can be brought back to a vote six months after the election. The second vote would fall into the renewal time frame. Marketing is working on the mileage campaign to be presented to all public entities over the next few months. Creole Culture Day was a huge success. BVD is renovating the bathrooms in

the Welcome Center. The Bandalong is working, not as advertised but it is working. When the Bayou Ops crew collects the debris from the Bandalong they get about 25 barrels in about 2 hours, as opposed to 2 days collecting it along the river. The booms are still necessary to collect trash that bypasses the Bandalong. More Bandalongs may be useful in other coulees but placement is key. BVD had budgeted for an increase in trash collection. Marketing is also working on a trash collection campaign to inform the public as to what BVD does to keep the river clean.

Committee Reports:

Marketing/Public Relations: There was no meeting. The committee is working on the bond and trash campaigns.

Finance/Capital: There was no meeting.

Operations/Bayou/Maintenance: There was no meeting.

Environmental: There was no meeting. President Richard asked what will be done with the water quality data collected over the last two years. CEO Cheramie explained that the findings are identifying the problems in the water and then BVD can find solutions to the problems. BVD is working with Soil and Water Conservation Districts in the area to achieve these solutions. BVD may need to find another lab to analyze the water samples.

Education/Programming: There was no meeting.

Curatorial/Acquisitions: The committee did meet and the issues discussed were included in Charissa Helluin's report.

The Board thanked Bruce Conque, TRAIL and Rotary for the bike rack and bench. The signage for the Village should be installed by July's meeting. CEO is still working on have Wi-Fi throughout the Village.

New Business: Commissioner J. Broussard commended Margot Addison on the pamphlet she made for the plants in the Village. The pamphlet identifies each plant and its origin.

Adjournment: **MOTION:** (S. Gremillion/D. McConnell) Motion to adjourn. All were in favor. Motion carried.

/s/ Rodney Richard
Rodney Richard, President

/s/ John Troutman
John Troutman, Secretary